REMARKS

Claims 1-13 remain in the present application.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement, and requested that Applicants elect one of two identified groups of claims for prosecution in connection with the present application. The groups of claims are as follows:

Group I – claims 1-5, drawn to a device characterized by a drift region formed in the semiconductor substrate under at least one edge side channel length direction of the gate electrode.

Group II – claims 6-13, drawn to a process removing the pattern and forming an interlayer insulating film over the entire surface of the semiconductor substrate.

APPLICANTS ELECTION

Applicants respectfully elect Group I, including claims 1-5, without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for the non-elected claims during the pendency of this application.

CONCLUSION

An early indication of the allowability of the pending claims in connection with present application is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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DJD/JWF:eaf